



RSE “Institute of Zoology” of the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of the Republic of Kazakhstan

RSI “Aksu-Zhabagly State Nature Reserve” of the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan

RSE “Institute of Botany and Phytointroduction” of the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Kazakhstan National Committee of the UNESCO “Man and the Biosphere (MAB)” Programme

CURRENT STATUS AND PROSPECTS FOR BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION IN THE WESTERN TIEN SHAN

November 11–13, 2026

Almaty, Republic of Kazakhstan

FIRST INFORMATION LETTER

Dear colleagues,

We invite you to participate in the International Scientific Conference “CURRENT STATUS AND PROSPECTS FOR BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION IN THE WESTERN TIEN SHAN,” dedicated to the 100th anniversary of the Aksu-Zhabagly State Nature Reserve, the first state nature reserve in Central Eurasia.

The conference will be held on **November 11–13, 2026**, in Almaty (Kazakhstan).

The Conference will feature presentations and discussions addressing fundamental and applied issues related to the current status and future prospects of biodiversity conservation in the Western Tien Shan, including the preservation of its ecosystem and species diversity, as well as the role of specially protected natural areas (SPNAs) in biodiversity conservation at regional and global levels.

Conference organizers: RSE “Institute of Zoology” of the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of the Republic of Kazakhstan; RSE “Institute of Botany and Phytointroduction” of the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan; RSI “Aksu-Zhabagly State Nature Reserve” of the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan; Kazakhstan National Committee of the UNESCO “Man and the Biosphere” (MAB) Programme.

Dates: November 11–13, 2026

Venue: Institute of Zoology, 93 Al-Farabi Ave., Almaty

Working languages: Kazakh, Russian, English

Format: Hybrid (onsite and online)

Forms of participation:

- Plenary presentation (20 min)
- Oral presentation in a thematic session (10 min)
- Poster presentation
- Participation with publication

Main conference themes:

- Current status and prospects for conservation of the fauna of the Western Tien Shan;
- Current issues in the study and conservation of the flora of the Western Tien Shan;
- Conservation of species and ecosystem diversity in SPNAs.

Proposals for plenary presentations, symposia, and round tables are welcome.

Round tables:

- “Biodiversity monitoring in SPNAs”
- “Impact of anthropogenic factors on biodiversity”
- “Current challenges in biodiversity conservation in the Aksu-Zhabagly Reserve”
- “UNESCO Biosphere Reserves in Central Eurasia”

Important dates:

By **April 1, 2026** – submission of proposals for plenary talks, symposia, and round tables

By **April 6, 2026** – submission of participation applications

By **August 16, 2026** – submission of presentation materials

Materials should be sent to: science@zool.kz

Registration form

You can register here:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfZm_dOrS43mAoMDP5XT_GpZY7PS49Tmarluwx8ypM07mdGRQ/viewform?usp=publish-editor

Or complete and submit the following tabular form:

Last name, first name, patronymic	
Affiliation	
Position, academic degree, academic title	
Title of the presentation	
Section title	
Participation in a round table	
E-mail	
Phone number	
Form of participation in the conference	

Publication of Conference Proceedings

A conference proceedings volume is planned to be published by the time of the conference (formatting guidelines are provided below).

Applications and materials should be sent to: science@zool.kz

The Zoom link will be included in the second information letter and sent to all registered participants.

Guidelines for Preparing Conference Papers:

1. The length of papers (including figures, tables, and references) must not exceed 8 pages. Font: Times New Roman, 12 pt, single spacing. Margins: top – 2 cm, bottom – 2 cm, right – 1.5 cm, left – 3 cm.
2. The title of the article should be in bold, 14 pt font. Below it, the initials and surname(s) of the author(s) should be given in 12 pt font. If there is more than one author, surnames should be separated by commas. Each surname should be followed by a superscript number indicating affiliation. Below, after one blank line, provide the full name of the institution(s), city, country, and e-mail address(es) in 12 pt font, in order.
3. Common geographic and metric terms should be given using standard abbreviations. Abbreviations must be defined at first mention.
4. Latin names of species must be provided at the first mention of their common name. Generic and specific Latin names should be italicized.
5. Geographic names should be verified according to the most recent official changes in the Republic of Kazakhstan and in the country from which the material is submitted.
6. Authors are encouraged to avoid figures and tables whenever possible by converting information into text. Figures and tables are acceptable only if they significantly reduce the length of the manuscript. All figures and tables must have titles, separate numbering, and references in the text.

Figures must be submitted as separate files in JPG, PNG, or TIFF format. Indicate the preferred placement of each figure in the text. Caption format: “Fig. 1 – Title of the figure.”

Tables must be submitted as separate Microsoft Word files using the TABLE option. Graphic (drawn) tables are not accepted. The table title should be centered above the table, for example: “Table 1 – Title of the table.” Indicate the preferred placement of each table in the text.

7. Alignment of words and lines must not be done using spaces. Hyphenation in the text is not allowed. A decimal point must be used to separate whole and fractional parts of numbers (e.g., 1.9, not 1,9). In Russian and Kazakh texts, the symbol “№” must not be replaced by the Latin letter “N.”
8. References in the text should be cited in parentheses using the author’s surname and year of publication in the original language, in chronological order. For more than three authors, use “et al.” In the reference list, entries should be arranged alphabetically and chronologically. Multiple publications by the same author(s) in the same year should be distinguished by letters “a,” “b,” “c.”

Example of Reference Formatting:

References

Shammakov S.M., Ataev K.A. New records of the toad-headed agama in Northern Turkmenistan // Problems of Desert Development. 2007. No. 1. P. 54–55.
Brushko Z.K. Lizards of the Deserts of Kazakhstan. Almaty: Konzhyk, 1995. 232 p.